

ALL NEWS WRITTEN
BY PROFESSIONAL
JOURNALISTS

Baye Gibson Times

LATEST EDITION

Prediction: If you read this newspaper thoroughly there is a good chance you will decide that Kenneth A. Gibson will make a good Governor for the State of New Jersey. Details are throughout the paper.

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Gibson Starts Third Term Optimistically

THE STAR-LEDGER, Newark

Sunday, May 14, 1952

By CHARLES Q. FINLEY

Newark Mayor Kenneth A. Gibson enters his unprecedented third term confident his city will prosper.

"Newark is healthy compared to some other cities in the country and even those, no matter how sick, aren't going to die," the mayor asserted.

"But it's a big job being mayor of Newark. No job should take up seven days a week. You can't let it fill you. I'm lucky I have a God given gift. I don't think I've been upset once during my eight years in office," Gibson said.

"You know how they're always referring to the cockroach 'Type A' executives, the prize candidates for heart attacks? Well, I'm 'Type B.' My brother always told me I resemble one top show and moving as all. I may be slow, but I'm perfectly persistent."

Gibson and Newark is "much more stable" than when he took office in 1910.

"Groups and individuals are no longer fearfully at each other's throats and there's a great deal more stability in the financial side of the city."

Gibson, who was elected after the Newark riots which claimed 23 lives and while former Mayor Hugh J. Addonizio was in trial for extortion, attributes the deterioration of the nation's cities to "the still unhealed economic scar."

"As the costs of doing business continued to go up for the cities the profit was reduced when just no money could be obtained through taxes and costs still rise," he said.

The plight of the City of Newark can be compared to the entire nation on a fixed income. The city's dependence on outside governmental funding has gone up from 40 per cent to 60 per cent. Imagine where we'd be if that dried up."

"When you reach the point you are in out cities in being going, then what? Close the schools? Cut down on police protection? You must fight fire."

"Another factor not to be forgotten is that all the city employees are organized and their demands have created a very serious problem with our inability to increase revenue. A car I bought in 1944 cost \$2,000. Today it would cost double that amount. That's why it's a crunch. The city practically is working on a fixed income."

Gibson in his third term wants to stress for additional bond and family health care, stimulate the improvement and stability in the educational system and work to lead in the cleanup campaign to improve the appearance of the city.

He spoke enthusiastically about a plan for a "new-town concept" in a highly rated area south of the City of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. "We have tentative financial backers and have a plan for development," Gibson said. "It will be



As part of his job, Mayor Gibson often faces a battery of television, radio and newspaper reporters in his office. His press conferences draw newsmen from all over the metropolitan area.

Spokesman for Urban America

METRO-NEWARK MAGAZINE

September-October 1952

By DON DUST

Critics may doubt this hard work and dedication to a cause every day. Regularly when it involves anything that even cracks of politics.

But in spite of critics and cynics, Mayor Kenneth A. Gibson, while devoting time and energy to Newark, has over the years been working with mayors around the nation in an attempt to solve their shared problems.

This summer he was elected to head the national organization, the U. S. Conference of Mayors, one of the most powerful lobbying organizations in the country in terms of making national lawmakers aware of the special needs of urban America and finding solutions to the problems that all major cities face.

The U. S. Conference of Mayors is an organization of some 150 cities with populations in excess of 50,000, in which member cities are represented by their elected chief executive — the mayor. It concentrates its efforts on questions dealing with federal-city relationships, and the organization has become a focal point for urban political leadership.

The Conference has a staff of 17 people in its Washington office and a budget this year of \$100,000, a modest figure when compared to some of the major industrial lobbying efforts. Despite its size, however, the organization works with questions that directly affect residents in every city in the country and potentially the entire U. S. population.

"It's my job," Mayor Gibson said of his one-year term as president of the Conference, "to carry out the policies of the organization. These policies," he explained, "are derived from a series of resolutions passed at our annual conference which deal with those things that are important to cities, such as questions of health, education and jobs."

The organization works with the President of the United States and members of Congress in formulating legislation that affects cities, and it pushes for the passage of legislation that will be beneficial to urban America.

"If what we feel are high priority items are not on the Congressional calendar," Gibson said, "we make sure they get on the calendar."

Gibson has been involved with the U. S. Conference since he assumed his post as Newark's mayor in 1910. Since then he has worked with the organization in a two-fold, but steady way to help advance the cause of cities and downtown Newark.

"Gibson didn't get to be the president of the U. S. Conference by devoting the last seven minutes," said John Z. Gunther, the Conference's executive director. "There was a great deal of competition for the job, but Gibson showed he was interested in attending all the meetings and testifying when he was needed. He really convinced the members that he was interested in working in their behalf."

Two years ago, Gibson became chairman of the organization's advisory board and last year he became its vice-president, a post that

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Revival of Riot-Torn Newark: Best-Kept Urban Secret

THE WASHINGTON POST

Sunday, March 4, 1979

By NEAL R. PERCIE

NEWARK, N.J. — The best kept secret in urban America is how this city, devastated by riots a dozen years ago and long afflicted by America's worst problems of burned out slums, high crime and municipal poverty, has begun to bounce back.

Admittedly, the bounce has to be a long one in a city still troubled by slumming, high jobless rates, flashes of anger and a third of the population on public assistance. But from downtown to the neighborhoods, the mayor discovers multiple signs of rejuvenation which national media outlets — focused exclusively on the hard signs of civic disaster — rarely mention.

One sign of Newark's rebirth is the heavy amount of downtown building order way with the backing of banks, insurance companies and other firms who feel the city's future is secure enough to justify large investments. Perhaps even more significant is the comeback in city government.

Thousands of Newark working-class folk are finding life savings and taking over substantial loans to rehabilitate their homes — hardly a sign of population flight. Newark's neighborhood rebirth is 100 percent a blue-collar, black and ethnic, grass-roots, grassroots affair. "Gentrification" by middle and upper-middle folk — the hugging plot and spread stall crowd taking over nearby neighborhoods, in many cases — is virtually nonexistent here.

One's first impression is that if Newark, given its weight of problems and drawbacks, can emerge with new strength, then any city in America can.

Even in its darkest days, of course.

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Third-Term Mandate

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Wednesday, May 10, 1978

NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — Incumbent Kenneth A. Gibson rolled up a 11-point margin Tuesday night and became the first mayor of Newark to win a third term.

The people of Newark have said to those who would doubt it that we have gotten it together — and there is no power in Newark or any place else that is going to stop us from keeping it together," Gibson said in a post-election mood.

His slightly more than 50 percent of the vote counted, Gibson had about 31,000 votes, and his closest challenger, Dr. John P. Donato, had just under 10,000.

Gibson, 48, the first black in head in this mostly black city, campaigned on the slogan, "He put it all together." His campaign poster showed a black man in a white hard hat, and during the campaign he emphasized the need for support from all ethnic groups.

NOTE: The articles in this newspaper have not been edited in any fashion. They have been printed in their entirety. Most of them appear under their original headlines. In addition, these articles are not, in any way, to be construed as an endorsement of Kenneth A. Gibson for the Democratic Candidate for Governor of New Jersey. They are presented purely for the information of the reader.

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GIBSON STARTS THIRD TERM

Continued from Page 1

residential and commercial in nature and will have everything. A school is a governor, so the whole area will grow."

Gibson's philosophy is simple.

"I don't need much to be happy," he admitted. "I just want things that make me comfortable, like maintaining a reasonable degree of physical well-being and eating a good meal of what I want once a day."

"I don't drink and I don't smoke. I read continuously. Whenever I go anywhere I always take a newspaper, a book or a magazine along."

"I don't worry about having material things. What some people consider the simple, unimportant things are what I consider important in my own life."

Helen DeMeyrick, Gibson's secretary over the years, said, "He's a honey and I love him, is do the other people who work for him."

"He carries a hammer in a leather way. He has a subtle foreknowledge. When he wants something done, employees sense themselves they just better do it."

"He's a great tea drinker and usually doesn't even eat a sandwich for lunch. He's the most easygoing person I've ever known in my life. The fewer gets excited no matter what may be happening."

"He has an extraordinary amount of patience and it rubs off on those around him. And he listens to suggestions. He's very easy to talk to."

Gibson's family includes his wife,

Gibson Praised for Platform Work

THE STAR-LEDGER, Newark

July 12, 1972

Special to The Star-Ledger

MIAMI BEACH — Mayor Kenneth A. Gibson of Newark last night shed the limelight with Richard Neustadt, chairman of the platform committee, during the debate over proposed changes in plans at the Democratic National Convention.

Gibson, the city's first black chief executive, was praised by Neustadt for his "able and fair" handling of the special subcommittee on the majority report.

"You'll be sorry much more of him before the night is over," said Neustadt in introducing Gibson to the assembled delegates. "He'll be right here with us."

Gibson was given the task of outlining in the convention the plans on cities, communities, counties and environment.

He was enthusiastically lauded in the platform notes in a delegate commended to McGovern.

In fact, he is not a delegate but has figured prominently in the McGovern campaign.

On Monday night, Gibson opened the door of the extension in search of delegates in support of McGovern's position on the key California delegate challenge issue. He was one of 12 delegates named by the McGovern staff for that purpose.

There were strong indications that last night's appearance on center stage before the convention would not be the last for Gibson.

It was believed that Gibson will be asked to give a concluding speech on behalf of McGovern when the presidential nominations open tonight.

Marcel, and three daughters, JoAnne, an employee in the city tax assessor's office; Cheryl, a student at Rutgers University in Newark; and Joyce, who attends Livingston College and works as an insulator throughout at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center.

Gibson, 48, was born in Enterprise, Ala., and moved to Newark as a youngster in 1940. A graduate of Central High School, he went on to earn a degree in civil engineering from the Newark College of Engineering (Technological).

He was president of the U.S. Conference of Mayors for a year in 1970, the first black to hold that post. He has received national acclaim for his achievements.

Gibson was selected by Time Inc. as one of America's outstanding 200 young men and by the International Edition of Time Magazine as one of the world's top 50 leaders. He was acclaimed by the Times of London as an example of practicing the kind of political leadership which will be developed in the future. In 1964, he was named "Man of the Year" by the Newark Journal.

Gibson's father, Willie, a retired butcher, and his mother, Daisy, still live in Newark.

His mother said her son "always was an old man."

"He studied all the time as a child and was very quiet and serious all the time," she recalled. "He never did play much."

"I'm thankful for his rejection, and very proud, but as a mother, I can't expect. With the country in the state it's in today, there's always the chance someone may try to hurt him."

"A lot of successful young people tend to live in fear for their parents. But that has not been true of the mayor."

"If we need him, he's at our door quickly even if it's 2 a.m. Whenever he

goes out of town, he makes sure we know where he can be reached."

Gibson has spoken across the nation on behalf of urban America.

Mrs. Gibson turned her husband "down but not out."

"He's a gentle man, slow to anger, but when he has something to say, he says it. He's not the kind to jump up and down and tell you things go really wrong. He takes everything in stride."

"He's a good father, understanding and compassionate. He's considerate. When he comes home, he says, 'Why should I bother you with my problems?' You have problems of your own, although sometimes we do talk about his problems at City Hall."

"When he gets a telephone call very late at night after a long, hard day he never complains. 'That's my job,' he'll tell me. 'I'm the Mayor.'"

Gene Russell, the press officer for the U.S. Conference of Mayors, said, "In all career, he's a peach to work under."

"He always could be depended upon for clear guidance in policymaking problems and he sticks to his commitments, whether to make a speech, or is more involved area. Even when making a decision on how a certain move might gain wide publicity for him, this never was a consideration, he always was able to see the true balance of a situation and react in an honest, fair manner."

"Some elected officials grow to be pompous. You'll never hear anybody say Mayor Gibson is pompous. That he was greatly respected by the staff and was looked to by the staff guy he depend upon when a policy issue was at stake."

Gibson goes daily and often takes part in running events. He also can play the saxophone and is a jazz and pop music buff.

"I don't know why I like music, but I do know I find it relaxing," Gibson said.

Housing Efforts Win Praise

THE STAR-LEDGER, Newark

Friday, July 13, 1974

The chairman of the subcommittee on housing yesterday praised Newark for moving toward "a common solution" to its problems.

Rep. William A. Barrell (D-Pennsylvania), in a letter to Newark Mayor Kenneth A. Gibson, said he was "impressed at the signs of progress in housing and community development" which he observed last Saturday while in Newark.

Gibson last weekend toured the city with Barrell and Rep. Peter W. Rodino (D-Ill.) and studied Newark's housing picture.

Barrell yesterday said that his trip "confirmed my original conviction that the negative image of Newark which appears to be in the public's mind is not only greatly exaggerated but basically false."

The legislator pointed out that he saw "a degree of energy, concern and willingness to move together toward a common solution which few other cities can match."

Barrell toured 15 public and private housing projects in the city. During the tour he saw these housing developments under construction that will provide 710 new apartments at a total cost of \$41.5 million.

The legislator's trip was named briefly at Columbia Homes housing projects where a few residents plotted the entourage of officials with eggs and bottles. No one was injured in the incident.

Execs Cheer Gibson Run

THE STAR-LEDGER, Newark

Saturday, April 24, 1976

By TEN NOVILLINO

Newark Mayor Kenneth A. Gibson was cited for setting a "good example" by several city business leaders yesterday who praised him for running in the Boston Marathon earlier this week.

The mayor, one of more than 2,000 runners in the famed Boston race, was presented a plaque, emblem and badge from the Boston Athletic Association in a brief ceremony in his office yesterday.

Albert D. DeRogatis, vice president in charge of community affairs for the Prudential Insurance Co., and Warren Davis of the New Jersey Bell Telephone Co., made the presentations to Gibson.

"We think the mayor has established a good example," said Davis. "We can pick up the lead, and with the mayor's help we can make our Newark into a great race."

Davis, who is also chairman of the recreation committee of the Greater Newark Chamber of Commerce, said he hopes the Newark business community will support the city's 13-mile marathon, in which Gibson has also participated.

Gibson, who completed the grueling Boston course of more than 26 miles in four hours and 23 minutes, also received a special certificate and greeting from Boston Mayor Kevin White.

DeRogatis and many of the city's business leaders hope Newark youngsters will take part in future Newark marathons.



A strong advocate of physical fitness and a regular jogger, Mayor Gibson competes in the annual Newark Boston Run on Broad Street. He has taken part in marathons in Boston and New York, too.

Coalition Endorses Mayor Ken Gibson

THE ITALIAN TRIBUNE, Newark
Friday, March 5, 1979

THE NORTH WARD COALITION, a political action group comprised of prominent business and professional leaders in the area, has unanimously endorsed the candidacy of Mayor Kenneth Gibson for reelection in May.

This will be the first time Mayor Gibson will be receiving united support from the predominantly Italian North Ward. Back in 1970, when Gibson first ran for Mayor and was victorious, the North Ward supported Mayor Hugh J. Addonizio. In 1974, when Gibson won for the second time, the ward gave its blessings to Anthony Imperiale.

"I, for one," declared Kenneth Peter Caputo, Rocco Ferrante Sr., Chairman of the Coalition and prime organizer of the group, "give my support to Addonizio and my long-time friend, Tony Imperiale, in previous elections."

Ferrante told a gathering of the membership at Thomas's Restaurant, "Mayor Gibson has shown me to be a great humanitarian, a very fair man in his dealings with all ethnic groups in the city, one who has treated blacks and whites alike. His main interest is in rebuilding the city."

Acc Alagna, publisher of the ITALIAN TRIBUNE and a strong advocate of equality for all people, told the gathering, "I am going to support the reelection of Mayor Gibson. I feel we should all get behind this man and help him try to rebuild our city. He has done a marvelous job. Racial troubles have ceased under his reign. He has bestowed levels on the deserving ones. Let's get behind him."

Alagna was loudly applauded for his talk. Mrs. Geta Spatola O'Connor, Co-Chairperson and influential leader in the South Ward was back in her guise of Mayor Gibson's candidacy as she rose to speak.

"I have lived every day of my life in Newark, and my family business has been located in this city since 1890. Newark has been my hometown, through the good times and even through the bad. I, for one, am delighted that we are making a strong comeback since the 1967 riots that almost destroyed our city. I see visible improvements every day and I tell all it is due to Mayor Gibson who is here tonight. Our city is peaceful and is on its way back to being a place where all of us can live and work together."

Mayor Gibson has shown me that he is interested in the North Ward—witness the recent House Improvement program launched here, and the visible changes about to take shape in the St. Lucy Development area, known to most of us as the old "First Ward." Mayor Gibson is attentive, every day, by his vigorous action, his deep commitment and dedication to bring the "Mayor of all the people" of Newark. A week doesn't go by when he isn't phoning Newark's cause before federal and state officials, and we all know how diligently he has been working to interest the private sector in giving to the rebuilding of New Jersey's largest city.

The Mayor then publicly and cordially thanked Captain Ferrante for endorsing the Coalition, which brings together many factions in the North Ward who will be supporting Gibson for the first time. He expressed his eagerness to work with, and welcome, these new supporters, and maintain an "open door" policy, both during and after this campaign.

KENNETH A. GIBSON: COMMON SENSE CHOICE



DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR

He's not charismatic, but many people are fascinated by his depth of logic, his unusual tenacity and his commitment to basic democratic principles.

He knows we are not facing a problem of conservatism or liberalism. Conservatism or liberalism doesn't necessarily educate children. Conservatism or liberalism doesn't necessarily provide the resources gathered in an equitable way to run our state. Conservatism or liberalism will not necessarily end our fear of devastating drought because of poor planning of the State's water resources. Conservatism or liberalism will not necessarily produce the amount of economic growth which will create jobs for the unemployed. All of these problems and many more not mentioned, can only be solved by a Governor who is capable of being a common sense manager of the affairs of the State of New Jersey.

That person is Kenneth A. Gibson.

He's conservative when that makes sense. He's liberal in the face of human needs.

VOTE JUNE 2nd PRIMARY ELECTION

Gibson is Optimistic After Visit to Israel

THE JEWISH NEWS, East Orange
Thursday, December 16, 1976

By EDITH K. SCHAPIRO
South Plainfield Observer

Mayor Kenneth A. Gibson of Newark was scheduled to meet this week with President Jimmy Carter concerning the problems of American cities, but last month it was Israel crises—large and small, very old and very new—which engaged his interest as he led 15 other American mayors toward Israel.

It was obvious from an account of his first visit to Israel that Mayor Gibson gave last week to leaders of the Jewish Community Federation of Metropolitan New Jersey that he was impressed by the small, young country of militant origins.

"You must admit it," he said, "but until you see it yourself, you can't understand the west-dorn feeling of the co-existence of these of the three great religions." He "broke to making the Bible again," he added later, obviously moved by the fact that he has now seen uses of which it speaks.

Heard Declaration
Leading the American delegation in the recent position as president of the United States Conference of Mayors, Gibson said that the group was given a "Cook's tour by the experts."

For instance, Mayor of Jerusalem Teddy Kollek explained the make-up and powers of the city council. "I have to deal with nine Councilmen," Gibson remarked, suggesting that he sympathized with Kollek's need "to deal with 12."

Recognizing differences in the aid and other aspects of life in the U.S. and Israel, Gibson said that to him it seems that "we can learn a great deal from Israel as how the Government gets involved in providing services to meet human needs."

Cites Optimism
"I returned with a sense of optimism," Gibson said, explaining that if Israel can still meet this "quality of life" problems while expending so much on external and internal security, the United States should be able to accomplish more than it has in providing educational, health and other benefits.

In connection with the subject of urban needs, Gibson said that he naturally is deeply concerned over the problems of Newark and other cities facing conditions of blight.

"From time to time," Gibson acknowledged, "I feel, adding however that U. S. foreign aid program worthwhile where American cities are in desperate for help."

"I believe Israel merits our assistance," he said, adding however that some of the money going to less worthy countries would be better devoted to urban help in the United States.

An engineer by training, Gibson reported that he was particularly interested in housing construction and building projects he saw, such as the effort to Jerusalem in bringing water lines to Arab neighborhoods that had never had them.

"They have a better system in Israel," he said, referring to the fact that families by spending in Israel and therefore directly help meet the high costs of construction compared with the American way of raising housing.

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Mayor Gibson Wins

THE STAR-LEDGER, Newark, N.J.
Thursday, May 11, 1978
(Editorial Page)

In winning a record third term as mayor of Newark, Kenneth Gibson has demonstrated the same endurance in his political life as he has shown in the marathon races he has run.

Political durability in the mayor's case has another, more significant meaning. The avoided winning vote, which precluded a runoff election, represents a solid affirmation by the voters.

It is, in fact, an endorsement of his record in office, which justifies a need for continuity in the long commitment to revive an urban community that still shows the negative effects of a steep racial and economic decline.

Newark has made progress since Mr. Gibson became mayor in 1970, a dismal period in which the state's largest city was held out as a lamentable example of acute urban obsolescence. The gains under his leadership have been modest and much remains to be accomplished.

But there have been significant improvements—a reduction in street crime, an expansion of the health care system, and a steady rebuilding of the city's severely depleted housing stock. Education still remains a formidable, frustrating problem, an area that must be addressed with greater vigor and leadership to upgrade the quality of schooling.

Unemployment is a resistant economic problem, in common with other large urban communities that have been afflicted with the loss of industry and business. Regrettably, as Mr. Gibson frankly noted in his campaign, there are no "total solutions," nor the partial ones comes easy, particularly in the employment sector.

Mainly because of his sustained moderate approach, Newark has moved in a positive manner from the social backwardness that polarized the community before he became mayor. As an urban struggle with national credentials, Mr. Gibson has been able to focus attention on his city and to influence the allocation of badly needed additional resources.

In his unprecedented third term, Mayor Gibson will have a mandate to appropriately expand the prize of his first eight years in this difficult public office, drawing on the experience and expertise he acquired as chief executive and as advocate of the country's big cities.

A City Turning Around

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER
Thursday, January 4, 1979
(Editorial Page)

Gibson which city once had one of the highest crime rates in the nation and now ranks 25th, turned a budget deficit into a surplus, replaced a corrupt mayor with a respected one and boasts of the fastest growing educational and health centers in the world?

Would you believe Newark, N.J.?

Newark, long synonymous with urban decay, may have to relinquish that claim to some other city, say, Cleveland. An article in the latest issue of New News Magazine contends that Newark's poor image has been "mud by too many far too long" and recites a battery of statistics to prove its point.

For example, between 1970 and 1976, Newark's crime rate dropped 16 percent while crime increased elsewhere by 44 percent. Five new hotels have opened since 1970, and retail sales have increased 13 percent during the past six years. A \$100 million expansion of the city's four college campuses is underway and a \$200 million medical school was constructed recently. As for the political scene, self, City Hall is no longer occupied by Hugh Addonizio, who recently was released from prison. Nationally respected, three-term Mayor Kenneth Gibson is now in charge.

No one is suggesting that Newark is an urban phoenix's dream; surely that it has been making a quiet, but firm, recovery from its low point in 1967 when the city sank into chaos during riots in which 20 persons died and more than 1,500 were injured.

Even so, what is happening in Newark today is good news not only for its residents but for everyone else as well. "Watch Newark," Mayor Gibson is fond of saying, "Whenever America is going, Newark will get there first."

EDITORIALS

Continuity in Newark

MICRS-TV, New York
Wednesday, April 26, 1978

By SUE COTT
Manager of Editorial

Newark—the very name used to conjure up a grisly picture of race riots, corrupt city officials, crime and urban decay.

It used to be—eight years ago before Kenneth Gibson was elected mayor. But since then the picture has slowly been changing. Racial tensions have eased. City government has been free of major scandals. Newark has gone from first to twenty-first in crime among the big cities in the country. And although urban decay hasn't been, indeed, neighborhoods are improving, whole blocks are being rebuilt and business is returning to the city.

And that's not all. Health has improved dramatically, with a big drop in infant mortality, tuberculosis and venereal disease. And taxes have been able to be reduced as a result of money impressively piled out of Washington under both Republican and Democratic administrations. All since Kenneth Gibson has been Mayor of Newark.

New Mayor Gibson is campaigning for a third term and we hope he is re-elected so that the momentum can continue. And we also hope that if he is re-elected, he will remain as uncorrupt as the people of Newark as he has been during his campaign.

Eight years ago Ken Gibson was a little-known civil engineer. Today he is a national figure as a result of the considerable political skills he demonstrated as head of the United States Conference of Mayors. And all Newark should be proud of him.

We think Newark is a better place because of Kenneth Gibson. And that's why we endorse him as candidate for mayor and urge his reelection on May 8.

A Different View on Newark's Exodus

THE NEW YORK TIMES
Sunday, March 21, 1977
(Letter to the Editor)

May I present a different view on Newark's "pansophical" exodus during the 1960's and early 1970's? Although contrary to Joshua H. Schwartz's letter of Feb. 10, it reflects the opinion of tens of thousands of Newark's white citizens, like myself, who decided to remain in Newark despite the harrowing flight of others.

We need to be heard, too. For us, Newark, too, had a unique past. Hundreds of thousands of eager European immigrants, including Mr. Schwartz's ancestors, had ultimately settled there and prospered had "made good." For them, Newark was a springboard of opportunity, a means of diversified business, industry, commerce and ambitious talents.

Why should black Americans, who are already born as citizens and then merely migrate from another state to own, be denied the same opportunity to make good, to start life anew, as the white immigrants from Europe and elsewhere had done Newark as the stepping-stone to a better life?

Since July 1970, with the accession of Mayor Kenneth A. Gibson in office, there has been a surge in solid accomplishment in Newark's rebuilding. And not one only of mayor and alone.

Mayor Gibson and his administration have actually kindled hope in the city's people. Because he has faith in Newark's future, he has demonstrated it time and time again.

A new Newark is rising out of the grounds of the old. Having talented students—needy ones, blacks and whites—since February 1952, without pay or other compensation, the underserved know and hand that need for such humanitarian, constructive services was not too far, it is no less urgent now.

What Newark has always needed are fully committed participants to change and help realize its valid claim to its unique greatness as the city that strive to bring dignity while giving everyone, regardless of race, ethnicity or station in life, a second chance in life to fulfill oneself.

Charles A. Savatelli
President
Associated Community Councils
of Newark

URBAN SPOKESMAN

Continued from Page 1
traditionally leads to the Conference's prehistory.

"Gibson's approach does not deal so much with the theoretical aspects of urban problems as, instead, with the practical application of the theories. His strongest characteristic is his steady, one-step-at-a-time approach to solving problems," Guelcher said.

"I really can't put a figure on the number of hours that I have spent working with the conference," Gibson said. "But I guess I am spending so more this year than I have in past years when I was vice president and advisory board chairman. We work as a team to carry out policies. We go and testify and introduce other members of the team to Congressional executives and subcommittees. We speak before groups that impact upon cities, such as the American Bar Association and the National House Builders Association."

"I don't think that my being president will mean that Newark will receive any more money than any other city, but I certainly think it helps to have the attention of the country and the congressional members directed to the cities of the country, cities like Newark."

"And, let's face it," he continued, "when I talk or testify, I talk about Newark, just as when the mayor of Syracuse talks he refers to the city he knows about. We all talk about our own problems, which in many cases are the same problems, just in different degrees."

One significant difference among cities that Gibson has found is that the power which mayors have to solve

municipal problems differs from state to state, and that how a mayor responds to a city's needs often depends on his particular state's laws.

"We naturally consult with each other," Gibson said, "but I'm certainly not a senior advisor, nor do I know any more than any other mayor. It is a question of sharing experiences."

"Here in Newark, however, I feel that we've been able to grow, with very little additional assistance, that you can observe trends. The health statistics in the city of Newark are no longer the worst. In fact, there are many doctors who are surprised that we've been able to make the improvements we have."

"Our crime statistics have improved. The trend, as far as crime goes, is better for Newark" — by that, I mean lower — than the national average. Nationally, the crime trend is higher than our city. The number of housing units constructed in the city in the past two or three years is much greater than you'll find in comparable cities in the country. And reading levels are increasing, showing signs of improvement in education."

"When you deal with health, education, housing and crime you are doing a great deal to improve the quality of life in the city," he continued. "These are some of the criteria on which a city is judged."

"We're not a model yet. We have a great deal more to do, and I feel we're a long way from where we should be. But, all things considered, we've done a great deal more than similar cities."

"The problem is that I don't think we have enough power locally to make as much progress as I think we can."

"And national policies also have to be turned around. If everybody would



Mayor Kenneth A. Gibson introduces members of his family at U. S. Conference of Mayors meeting in Milwaukee in 1976 after he became president of national organization. At left is daughter Cheryl, and at right, wife Muriel and daughter Jo Ann.

adopt the policies of the U. S. Conference of Mayors, the problems of the cities would be solved. We have not had the national leadership, both in the Congress and the executive branch, that totally mirror to the problems of the cities."

Gibson has met often with national leaders and will continue to do so as he has new role. The difference now is that he will be chairman of these meetings.

"I'm most sure," he said, "all

Presidents, Democrats and Republicans, consult with the U. S. Conference before taking a position concerning cities. And, if they haven't consulted with the president of the Conference directly, it has been with the Conference staff."

Gibson has announced that he does not intend to use his new position to influence the upcoming Presidential election.

(Remainder of original article omitted here because of lack of space.)

MAKE KENNETH GIBSON GOVERNOR & SPOKESMAN FOR NEW JERSEY • PULL THE GIBSON LEVER IN YOUR COUNTY

ATLANTIC COUNTY	A - 10	★	MIDDLESEX COUNTY	A - 12
BERGEN COUNTY	1 - 8	★	MONMOUTH COUNTY	1 - 7
BURLINGTON COUNTY	4 - 9	★	MORRIS COUNTY	4 - 8
CAMDEN COUNTY	4 - 5	★	OCEAN COUNTY	F - 8
CAPE MAY COUNTY	4 - 5	★	PASSAIC COUNTY	A - 4
CUMBERLAND COUNTY	A - 13	★	SALEM COUNTY	No. 15
GLOUCESTER COUNTY	5th	★	SOMERSET COUNTY	A - 1
HUDSON COUNTY	1 - 12	★	SUSSEX COUNTY	No. 8
HUNTERDON COUNTY	F - 12	★	UNION COUNTY	D - 11
MERCER COUNTY	1 - 9	★	WARREN COUNTY	3rd



THIS MAN REALLY SHOULD BE
GOVERNOR OF NEW JERSEY ★ ★

★ VOTE JUNE 2ND ★
DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY

He's conservative when that makes sense! He's liberal in the face of human needs!



Plans for a new branch bank building are reviewed by Mayor Gibson and officials of Fidelity Union Bank at the site of a shopping center in Newark's thriving Ironbound district. Gibson works closely with business leaders to assist in creation of new jobs.

REVIVAL OF NEWARK

Continued from Page 1

Newark has had formidable economic growth. It remains the connecting point between the nation's most heavily trafficked highway, rail and air routes and largest harbor (New York). Newark's port facilities are outstanding. It is still New Jersey's largest city with banks holding billions in assets and life insurance companies selling more policies than any city save New York.

Still, the fact is that Newark entered the 1970s with an appalling list of disabilities. The crime, population density, unemployment, venereal disease and infant mortality rates were the country's highest — or close to it. The city had been convulsed with two decades of rapid population change, from white ethnic to black and Hispanic, with pockets of violent riotous along the cutting edge of neighborhood racial change.

Not all of these conditions have changed in nine years, but enough to make a fundamental difference. The metropolitan started in 1970 when Kenneth Gibson, a black leader of honest reputation and palpable goodwill, defeated Mayor Hugh Addonizio, soon to go to prison for plundering the public treasury.

Administratively, the Gibson administration often drifted, but it did reverse Washington that Newark was the nation's worst off city and governed over \$500 million in aid in eight years. Added to increased state aid, that made Newark look like a fiscal-out junkie. When Governor Rodolph Unzueta took office last year, Newark had to lay off 425 city workers, including 300 police. But Gibson claims that huge outside payments are justified by the huge amount of Newark land devoted to state and federal office buildings,

universities, roads and port — all the upsurges of a major regional service center cut off from the national tax base of 80 affluent hinterland.

Gibson also claims solid economies. He says city government per capita cost has declined from \$360 to \$260 since 1970, without reducing for inflation. The city's bond rating improved. Tax rates, for years way above those of nearby suburbs, have begun to inch downward. The crime rate finally leveled off, then declined sharply to its latest ranking of 28th in the nation. Public health measures cut the level of disease and infant mortality rates to a fraction of their prior levels.

Newark's downtown building boom is surely a match for Manhattan or a San Francisco city but does include hundreds of millions of dollars worth of office and hotel complexes, with the prospect of more to come in the near future. The city did lose an alarming 43 percent of its factory jobs between 1960 and 1975, but it has recently attracted some new plants, even as it adds to its service sector job total. There's a strong demand for quality office space. "People are coming in now talking about new projects in the city," says Edward First, senior vice president of the First National State Bank.

A new element has been added to Newark's character with a \$300 million wave of investments in education — the New Jersey College of Medicine and Dentistry, the New Jersey Institute of Technology, a branch of Rutgers University and others. They have eased the student population in balloon to 23,000 in a decade. There's a come-back among cultural institutions, including Symphony Hall, which ended 10 years of darkness with a glittering opening in an open-house area in April 1977.

In the mid-70s the tide of black

and Hispanic immigration and push into formerly white neighborhoods ceased, permitting stabilization — albeit at a very high 30 to 45 percent minority figure citywide. Forerunners of racial discord — black poet and nationalist Amiri Baraka and white merchant Anthony Imperiale, who's lost several street abortions — were eclipsed. Now groups fostering multiracial cooperation, such as Stephen Adabafo's North Ward Educational and Cultural Center, have gained influence. A Regional 21st Commission poll last year showed twice as many Newark residents expected their city to get better in the next five years as expected it to get worse. And there are signs of strong community organization across the city.

The most serious test for Newark will be the future of its Central Ward, blasted by the 1967 riots. It will probably be decades until that area lives down its past. But even there, one finds hope. On a windy day I climbed over a construction site where the Pilgrim Baptist Church is upbuilding a 100-year redevelopment site with 350 handsome townhouses under a federally insured mortgage for low-to-moderate income people. Several hundred yards away one could see the hulks of public housing high rises, where three young girls were recently mutilated and thrown off the roof. Such structures, Pilgrim Baptist Pastor Arthur Jones told me, "ought to be dynamited like they were in St. Louis."

But his townhouse, Jones said, were being built with quality, on a human formative scale. "Civics here is 10 years and I guarantee you that this complex will not be 'condemned' he said. "It will be like a good career that spreads."

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Gibson Lauded by Council for Fighting Loss of Funds

VALENTINE LEADER, Newark
Thursday, February 1, 1979

The Newark Municipal Council has officially commended Mayor Kenneth A. Gibson for his fight against the loss of federal funds that help support basic city services.

The motion was sponsored by South Ward Councilman Sharpe Jones, and was voted to the Mayor by City Clerk Frank D'Amico, who added: "May I take this opportunity to join the Council in wishing you success in the — effort to secure additional federal funds to assist the City of Newark."

Newark has lost \$10.8 million in antirecession funds because Congress did not re-act the federal aid program, and the city has laid off 441 employees, including 292 police officers.

The Council has unanimously adopted a motion "commending Mayor Kenneth A. Gibson for his tireless, sensitive and untiring lobbying efforts in Trenton and Washington to secure the restoration of antirecession federal aid and/or counter-cyclical funds to insure the retention of municipal personnel and the delivery of essential city services."

Acting on his own and in cooperation with the U.S. Conference of Mayors, Gibson has conferred with White House officials, Vice President Walter Mondale, leaders of both houses of Congress, New Jersey members of Congress, and mayors from around the country.

Gibson has also appealed to Gov. Brendan T. Byrne and members of the New Jersey Legislature to grant Newark an exception from the state "veto" on municipal spending, which prevents the city from using available surplus funds to offset the cutbacks in federal aid.

The Mayor said he was pleased by the Council action. "This shows their continued interest and cooperation," he declared. "I hope they will continue to support and participate in our appeal for a better federal response to Newark's needs."

"Rising Leaders"

TIME MAGAZINE
JULY 15, 1974

(The magazine published a special article "Leadership in America," with profiles of 200 Rising Leaders. This is the passage on Mayor Gibson.) Kenneth A. Gibson, 47, was prepared for disaster in 1970 when he became the first black mayor of Newark. His white predecessor was in trial for extortion and income tax evasion, and the mobsters from the 1967 race riots had not died down. Demoralized Gibson, however, beat crime and properly tax rates and reduced corruption, but he acknowledges that "whatever troubles American cities have, Newark will get them fast." A custom civil engineer noted for his civil rights and community affairs work, Gibson recently won a second term and, as advisory board chairman of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, is free to become the first black president of the organization.

Confers with Ford on Revenue Sharing

THE STAR-LEDGER, Newark
Thursday, August 15, 1974

By RICK BEAUDRUTE
Star-Ledger Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — President Ford said yesterday he will use Newark as a model of proper use of federal revenue sharing money, according to Mayor Kenneth A. Gibson, who met with Ford at the White House.

Ford was "surprised and pleased" by figures describing Newark's use of revenue sharing money to reduce local property taxes, Gibson told reporters on the White House lawn.

Gibson, one of 15 mayors invited to meet with Ford to discuss domestic issues facing the new Administration, was selected by the group to discuss revenue sharing.

"I made the presentation on the way we use these funds in Newark," Gibson said. "The President said he wanted to use the Newark figures as a model for the proper use of revenue sharing. He wants to use Newark as an example to those people who have criticized the program, an example of how a city with very serious problems put the program to good use."

The figures Gibson gave Ford showed that in 1972, before revenue sharing began, the average property tax on a \$20,000 home in Newark was \$1,926. When the city started receiving revenue sharing money in 1973, the bill for such a home dropped to \$1,878. This year it went down again, to \$1,720.

Most of the mayors emerged from the meeting wearing broad smiles and hailing Ford's "openness" and "warmth."

Gibson said he found the meeting with the President "very refreshing compared with what we've had in the past."

"We talked about all the problems of our cities," Gibson said. "The both enthusiasm and hopeful about the new Administration's treatment of our cities."

Gibson, when asked to compare Ford with ex-President Nixon said:

"Just our being able to talk to the President is change. There's quite a difference in personalities. Mr. Ford is a down-to-earth, straightforward man." On the two occasions he met with

President Nixon in the past, Gibson said, "I couldn't get the feeling of communication — I talked and he listened, but there was no feedback indicating understanding."

Gibson said the meeting yesterday was "very successful" although the mayors failed to receive assurances from Ford that he would support the \$20 billion mass transit bill now being considered by the House of Representatives.

"Mass transit was the first item on our agenda," Gibson said, "but the President would not commit himself to supporting the bill in its present form."

Ford, who said in his inaugural address to Congress Monday that federal spending should be paid to fight inflation, is believed to prefer a smaller mass transit subsidy bill. But he has given no indication whether he will veto the bill if Congress passes it in its present form.

The House was expected to vote on the mass transit bill yesterday, but abruptly halted debate late in the afternoon and adjourned until today. Though Ford asked the mayors to cut back some local programs as an anti-inflation cue, Gibson said only that Newark "could not expect any increase" in financial aid from Washington, beyond what is available now.

Asked whether, as one of the nation's few black mayors, he is disturbed by Ford's conservative voting record on civil rights issues as a congressman, Gibson said:

"It's the President now, and he intends to deal with all the people. But I don't expect President Ford to become automatically a champion of black people."

The 15 mayors invited to the meeting, eight Democrats and seven Republicans, represented the National League of Cities and the U.S. Conference of Mayors, organizations which between them represent nearly 16,000 municipalities across the nation.

Gibson is chairman of the advisory board of the Conference of Mayors.

The meeting lasted almost 90 minutes. It was held just after Ford met with a similar group of 15 governors.



Robert VanNoyan, president of Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Co., holds umbrellas for Mayor Gibson and Gov. Byrne as they announce plans to restore townships in the 26-block James Street Commerce Historic District in downtown Newark.

Gibson to Dems: Support Byrne

NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

Friday, April 2, 1977

By ROGER WITHERSPOON

Newark Mayor Kenneth Gibson yesterday urged Democrats to unite behind Gov. Byrne's second gubernatorial bid in order to prevent a loss of power in the Republican this fall.

Gibson said Byrne "represents the only hope for continued unity in the Democratic Party."

"In the last presidential election," he said during a City Hall press conference, "Gerald Ford did not win New Jersey, we Democrats lost the state for President Carter through disunity."

"The mistake I made and others made last year is we did not talk about party unity, and after the primary elections took off and went flying while the Republicans got themselves together."

"We were still bickering on election day while the Republicans took the state. That should not happen again." But the mayor's assessment of the needs of the Democratic Party were not held by influential county chairmen.

Harry Lerner of Essex County, when asked if split loyalties during a primary would hurt the party, laughed and said "of course not."

He said Gibson runs as an independent when he campaigns for mayor, and therefore, "has no right to speak for the Democrats."

Lerner said Gibson could be expected to follow Byrne again, since he backed the former judge in his first gubernatorial bid. But in 1972 the candidate was supported (Ralph De Haese) carried the county, not Gibson's candidate.

Bertam Weber of Bergen County said "It's the mayor's opinion, but it is

not necessarily a prevalent feeling in the party — or there wouldn't be so many ca-caddies."

Similarly, Passaic County's Joseph Harkins said, "I don't see any validity to it. I think we'll have an open primary and let the Democratic voters choose who they feel is the best."

"Without question we can all unite after the primary behind the winner," Harkins said. Gibson is wrong to compare this election with the Republican 1973 primary in which William T. Cahill was defeated by Charles S. Sandman. "There is not the bitter feeling between those not supporting Byrne and his backers as there was between the Cahill and Sandman teams."

In Trenton, Gov. Byrne thanked Gibson for his early support, saying "Ken Gibson was behind me in 1973 when we made a mutual commitment to New Jersey's cities. Together we have made progress in bringing our urban areas back to life, but there is still much work to be done."

"I appreciate this renewal of his support and his confidence in my ability to finish the job I set out to do four years ago."

Byrne Backs Gibson

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Wednesday, January 4, 1978

Kenneth A. Gibson was the endorsement of Governor Byrne in the Newark Mayor's campaign for re-election to a third term.

"I'm supporting Mayor Gibson," Mr. Byrne said. "By the way, it's not because he supported me but because I think that as Mayor of a critical city in New Jersey and the United States, he's done an outstanding job and will continue to do an outstanding job."

Mr. Gibson was an early supporter of the Governor in Mr. Byrne's campaign for re-election last year.



President Jimmy Carter was just one of many political leaders who have paid calls on Mayor Gibson during his 13 years in Newark City Hall. Carter sought the Mayor's advice during a 1976 visit to Newark.

NEWARK: Working Hard

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT
April 7, 1973

The residents of Newark — both black and white — are eager to point out the accomplishments of Mayor Kenneth A. Gibson.

Elected to his second four-year term, last summer, Mayor Gibson is credited with clearing up a corrupt city administration and cooling tempers in one of the most volatile racial confrontations in the nation.

The Mayor has cut the property tax rate, won more federal and state aid, demolished many dilapidated buildings. A multibillion-dollar program of new and rehabilitated housing is under way, and a large office-building complex has been erected in the center of the city.

Mayor Gibson also has beefed up the police force and put more officers on foot patrol. Newark's crime rate rose 5 per cent last year — no improvement, but still better than the 17 per cent increase nationwide.

But Newark is not enjoying its food business and residents. And now middle-income blacks are joining more affluent whites in moving into the suburbs.

About a third of the population is on welfare, and approximately two thirds of the property is exempt from taxes — either as public facilities or because it has been abandoned.

Says a leading businessman: "The mayor's first four years in office were supposed to be a holding action, and his second term was supposed to be the 'go years.' But, up until now, there's been no go."

Despite such criticism, most people in Newark refuse to blame the mayor for troubles that have been piling up for decades. This applies even to many whites, who are now a minority in a city with a population about 60 per cent black.

Observes Ralpheal Adolpho, director of the white-oriented North Ward Educational and Cultural Center:

"There's not a positive acceptance of the mayor among many whites. But they're not complaining as vehemently about the administration as before. In other words, they're not as up tight about having a black mayor."

GIBSON OPTIMISTIC AFTER VISIT TO ISRAEL

Continued from Page 4

"Of course," he added, "only planners there are not bogged down with outdated building codes" or union regulations as we have here.

Gibson also had some spot observations: "I met people in Israel. I'm not sure if they're the government or the other people are," and of the "good fence" program on the Lebanese border, "It's an unusual arrangement for a hot spot."

He lauded Israel's medical assistance to Lebanese Christians and the opportunities for employment that are given them.

His strongest impression, however, seemed to be with what he described as a certain "kind of patriotism" he saw in the people of Israel. "Everyone appears to be united," he said, "by their personal participation in the survival of Israel."



Rep. Peter W. Rodino Jr., D-N.J. chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, exchanges ideas with Mayor Gibson and Rep. John Conyers, D-Michigan, in Rodino's office on Capitol Hill.

Gibson Goes to Bat for the Elderly

THE STAR LEDGER, Newark
Saturday, June 13, 1974

By ROBERT W. MAITLIN
Star-Ledger Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Mayor Kenneth A. Gibson yesterday called for increased federal planning programs to aid the nation's elderly.

In a speech before the 10th constitutional convention of senior citizens here, Gibson said that, for too long, the federal government has taken a "piecemeal" approach to problems of the aged.

Gibson told the 2,500 delegates that federal agencies should develop long-range programs for the elderly, rather than just "going money to needy people in various ways."

He said current federal policy toward the elderly was to "let the cat just sit there and occasionally come by and make some minor repairs."

Gibson pledged to work with the nation's elderly until changes in federal planning procedures are made. "It will be impossible for me to be really proud of our advancement as a nation until I am proud of the Elderly senior citizens here," he said.

Gibson charged that too much of government has done enough to halt discrimination against the elderly.

He said society's treatment of the aged is "one of the most obvious cultural lags which hamper our nation from reaching true social maturity and greatness."

Gibson said the formation of an Office of Elderly Affairs (OEA) in Newark was an effort to change that situation.

He said the OEA works with other agencies in Newark to make life "simpler and easier" for senior citizens.

Gibson said that no program to help the elderly would be effective unless all Americans changed their attitudes toward older citizens.

He cited simple examples like bus drivers pulling over to sidewalks and waiting for an elderly person to be seated or taxi drivers helping a senior citizen to in or out of their door.

Gibson noted also that just because a person was older did not mean his usefulness had come to an end.

Gibson Wins Warm Praise at Conclave

THE STAR LEDGER, Newark
Thursday, June 13, 1977

By JAMES E. ROPIER

TOWSON — It was a day of honors for Mayor Kenneth A. Gibson of Newark, the outgoing president of the U. S. Conference of Mayors.

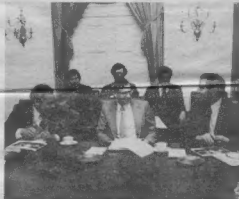
The conference, at the conclusion of its 41th annual meeting, passed a resolution praising him as "an eloquent voice for urban America" and urging him to continue his efforts on behalf of the cities.

The resolution adopted by a shouted vote said Gibson and his wife Mariel "have both served with dignity and honor beyond measure."

With Mariel standing beside him before the delegates, Gibson received from the conference a plaque and a set of gold cufflinks.

Then Mayor Arthur J. Holland of Trenton, N.J., presented Gibson with a citation of merit from the New Jersey Conference of Mayors. Holland said mayors are not always popular at home, but: "We want the world to know that he is loved and respected in New Jersey."

Delegates gave Gibson a standing ovation.



A frequent visitor to Washington, Mayor Gibson has often appeared at White House and Capitol Hill. Here he talks with Stuart Eizenstat (center), aide to President Carter, and Vice President Walter Mondale in 1979 meeting on urban policies.

GIBSON CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE
50 Park Place, Newark, N.J. 07102